

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 7 and 10. Please substitute for corresponding pending claims 2 to 6 inclusive, 8, 9, and 12 to 27 inclusive, the claims as shown rewritten below with amendments effected therein. Appendix I is attached hereto having marked versions of said claims with amendments indicated by brackets and underlining.

2. (Twice Amended) An article improved in energy consumption efficiency having a contact surface to be brought into contact with a surface of a support, and a thin film formed on the contact surface by application of an energy consumption efficiency improving agent comprising a mixture of a flexible polymer binder and a solvent which is capable of diluting the binder, including a solvent which dilutes the binder by colloid formation, said efficiency improving agent being applied to said article in the form of a thin film having a viscosity of 100,000 cp or less and a thickness of 10 μ m or less,

and wherein a base material of said polymer binder is at least one selected from the group consisting of polyethylene; a methyl, phenyl, chloro, hydroxy, acetoxy, or cyano derivative of polyethylene; polybutadiene; a methyl or chloro derivative of polybutadiene; a copolymer of said polyethylene derivative and said butadiene derivative; silicone; polysulfide; polyurethane; modified silicone;

modified epoxy resin; and modified acrylic resin which are generated by condensation action of an external substance during adhesion; and said solvent is selected from the group consisting of methyl alcohol, denatured ethyl alcohol, isopropyl alcohol, propyl alcohol, acetic acid, and cyclohexane.

3. (Twice Amended) The article according to claim 2, wherein said flexible polymer binder adheres to an organic material and an inorganic material and has a viscosity of 100,000 cp or less, and said solvent is present in an amount resulting in the viscosity of the mixture being 100 cp or less.

4. (Twice Amended) The article according to claim 2, said efficiency improving agent further comprising an antislipping agent comprising fine particles of an average particle diameter of 10 μm or less.

5. (Twice Amended) The article according to claim 2, wherein said base material of the polymer binder is at least one selected from the group consisting of polyethylene; a methyl, phenyl, chloro, hydroxy, acetoxy, or cyano derivative of polyethylene; polybutadiene, a methyl or chloro derivative of polybutadiene; a copolymer of said polyethylene derivative and said butadiene derivative; silicone; polysulfide; and polyurethane.

6. (Twice Amended) The article according to claim 2, wherein a base material of the polymer binder is at least one selected from the group consisting of silicone; polysulfide; polyurethane; modified epoxy resin; and modified acrylic resin which are generated by condensation action of an external substance during adhesion.

8. (Twice Amended) The article according to claim 4, wherein the antislipping agent is a finely particulate inorganic material mainly comprised of silicon oxide, aluminum oxide, cerium oxide, or silicon carbide, or a finely particulate organic material.

9. (Twice Amended) An energy consumption efficiency improving method, comprising applying said energy consumption efficiency improving agent as set forth in any one of claims 2 to 6 and 8 to an object to form a thin film of 10 μm or less on a surface of the object.

12. (Amended) The article of claim 2 wherein said mixture contains 1.42 to 1.58 wt. % of said flexible polymer binder and 94.81 to 98.5 wt. % of said solution-forming agent.

13. (Amended) The article of claim 4 wherein said mixture contains 0 to 3.77 wt. % of said antislipping agent.

14. (Amended) The article of claim 2 wherein the viscosity of said thin film is 10,000 to 100,000 cp.

15. (Amended) The article of claim 14 wherein said viscosity is 10,000 to 50,000 cp.

16. (Amended) The article of claim 15 wherein said viscosity is 10,000 to 20,000 cp.

17. (Amended) The article of claim 2 wherein said film has a thickness of 0.01 to 10 μm .

18. (Amended) The article of claim 17 wherein said thickness is 0.01 to 1 μm .

19. (Amended) The article of claim 18 wherein said thickness is 0.01 to 0.1 μm .

20. (Article) The article of claim 3 wherein the viscosity of said mixture due to the presence of solvent is 20 to 100 cp.

21. (Amended) The article of claim 20 wherein said viscosity is 20 to 50 cp.

22. (Amended) The article of claim 21 wherein said viscosity is 20 to 35 cp.

23. (Amended) The article of claim 4 wherein said average particle diameter is 10 nm to 10 μm .

24. (Amended) The article of claim 23 wherein said diameter is 10 nm to 1 μm .

25. (Amended) The article of claim 24 wherein said diameter is 10 to 100 nm.

26. (Amended) The article of claim 6 wherein said external substance is water.

27. (Amended) The article of claim 2 wherein said solvent is isopropyl alcohol.